

TINTWISTLE
Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1925.

By
GEO. J. AWBURN, B.Hy.

HYDE :
Highams Ltd., "Herald" Office.

Telephone 100.

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Tintwistle Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1925.

Gentlemen,

To the Chairman and Councillors.

I have the pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1925. This report, according to instructions, has to be a Survey Report for the last five years. We had an exceptionally fine summer; the health of the inhabitants was good. There is no poverty in the district, in spite of the mills working short time. The portions of your district are linked up to one another, and to the surrounding large towns by means of a system of 'buses which commenced running during the summer.

The population is about the same, also the number of houses. There may be more building in your district seeing there is now a good 'bus service. The social condition of the people has changed for the better. The people are better clothed, fed and housed than they were 25 years ago. They live healthier lives; recreation, in the form of cricket, tennis, football, bowls, has each a good following. This has had a very beneficial effect upon the physique and health of the young women.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The area (in acres) remains the same as in 1920, viz., 13,620, also the population (census 1921) being 1,983, and estimated for 1925, 2,016.

Your district is divided into three portions, viz., Tintwistle, Hattersley and Matley. The Tintwistle portion extends from just below Saltersbrook to Millbrook Brow, Hollingworth E. and W., and from the Manchester Reservoirs across the moors to Carrbrook N. and S.

The Hattersley portion is surrounded by Mottram on the S.E., Borough of Hyde on the N.W., and Matley on the N.E.

Matley adjoins the Stalybridge Borough on the N., Mottram and Hollingworth on the S. and S.E., and Hattersley on the W. The subsoil is chiefly composed of clay, with underlying rock. The chief occupations of the inhabitants are manufacturing cotton goods and bleaching.

The sanitary conditions under which the people work are good—consequently there is no special form of illness which I can attribute to their occupation. A great percentage of the girls suffer from goitre and anaemia, rheumatism (rheumatoid arthritis) is very prevalent in elderly people.

The number of inhabited houses in 1921 was 571, and the number of families or separate occupiers in 1921 was 581 approx, which is approximately the same as it is to-day. There is practically no overcrowding in the district.

The amount of money given in Poor Law relief during 1921 :—

Hattersley	Nil.
Matley	Nil.
Tintwistle	£204.

In 1925 :

Hattersley... ..	£7.
Matley... ..	£14.
Tintwistle	£365.

People requiring hospital treatment either go to the Manchester Infirmary or the District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population Census, 1921	1,983.
Population Estimated 1925	2,016.
Rateable value...	£26,579 os. od.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£110 14s. 11d.
Births—Legitimate	23.
„ Illegitimate	Nil.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth, Nil.

Birth Rate (R.G.)	11.4.
Death Rate (R.G.)...	16.8.
Zymotic Death Rate...	.9.
Infantile Death Rate	43.

There were two deaths from Cancer—one from Diphtheria, and one from Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The zymotic diseases reported during 1925 number eight :—

Scarlet Fever	2.
Pneumonia	2.
Diphtheria	2.
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1.
Enteric Fever	1.

This number is slightly above the average for the last five years.

We may take it that during the last five years your district has been remarkably free from Infectious Disease.

There have been the usual outbreaks of Measles and Chicken Pox, but these have been of a mild nature.

Owing to Small Pox in the surrounding towns your Council made Chicken Pox a notifiable disease during the first six months of 1925.

SCARLET FEVER: Both cases occurred in the Hattersley portion of your district. One resided in a farm—this case was removed to Hospital. The other was isolated at home.

DIPHTHERIA: One case was removed to hospital, and died after a tracheotomy—the other was a school teacher from Manchester. This case was treated at home.

ENTERIC FEVER: A case was reported from New Road, Tintwistle. I investigated the case, but could find no definite cause of the disease. The man had been eating mussels, which might have been the cause. There was no further outbreak.

CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER: A case was reported from the Hattersley portion of your district which proved fatal. The child was 18 months' old. Unfortunately we were unable to get any cerebro-spinal fluid for examination.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For infectious cases a cab is kept at the Fever Hospital. An arrangement is in force for the use of the Ambulances belonging to Hyde.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Clinics.	Situation.	Accommo- dation.	By whom provided.
Maternity and Child Welfare	Hollingworth.		County Council.
Day Nurseries	None.		
School Clinic	Doctor Visits School.		County Council.
Tuberculosis	Hyde.	Consultative.	County Council.
Venereal Disease ...	Ashton Infirmary.	Treatment.	County Council.

HOSPITALS.

TUBERCULOSIS : Cases of tuberculosis attend the Clinic provided by the County Council in Hyde. When suitable, the cases are sent to Sanatoria under the charge of the County Tuberculosis Officer.

MATERNITY : There is no maternity home in the district. Difficult cases either go to St. Mary's, Manchester, or the District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne.

CHILDREN : Children requiring hospital treatment either go to Pendlebury Hospital, Manchester, or the District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne. Both supported by voluntary contributions.

FEVER : A fever hospital is situated in Mottram Moor. There are six male and six female beds. The hospital is supported by the Councils of Mottram, Hollingworth and Tintwistle. Cases of diphtheria are sent to Hyde Borough Fever Hospital, and Smallpox to Hartshead, near Oldham.

There are no Institutions in the district for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children.

MIDWIVES.

There are no midwives in the district.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

The staff consists of a part-time Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector. The salaries of both are subsidised by Exchequer grants.

PROFESSIONAL NURSERY.

A professional district nurse is provided for the district. She is not allowed to attend infectious cases unless by special permission of the Committee.

The salary is provided by voluntary subscription, and managed by a Committee.

CHEMICAL WORK.

All the analytical work is done by the County Analyst, and paid for by the Council. During the year 1925 four samples of milk have been sent to be examined for Tubercle Bacilli. All samples gave negative results.

The Inspectors of the County Council come periodically and take samples of milk and food for examination.

There were no prosecutions during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA. **WATER SUPPLY.**

TINTWISTLE is supplied from springs which flow into a reservoir situated about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the village. This is both plentiful and pure.

MATLEY (that portion situated near the Stalybridge Tram Terminus) is supplied from springs, which run into a reservoir situated at Gallows Clough. This supply is good. The farms situated in the area are supplied with water from springs adjacent to the houses, and no complaints have been made regarding those supplies.

HATTERSLEY: This district is composed chiefly of small farms, each having its own water supply from springs in close proximity to the house. I have analysed the various supplies, and have found no sewage contamination.

RIVERS AND STREAMS: The river Etherow flows through the district for about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. It is polluted by effluent from the works situated on the banks. The Inspector of the Mersey and Irwell Board supervises the river pollution, and deals direct with the owners of the works.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

In Tintwistle, where the houses are connected up with the sewage scheme, the effluent is treated at the sewage works, which are working satisfactorily.

Samples have been taken by the Inspector of the Mersey and Irwell Joint Board, and classified as very good.

In Matley the sewage is connected up with the Stalybridge scheme, and is treated at the Stalybridge and Dukinfield Joint Sewerage Works.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The emptying of ashpits, etc., is carried out by the owners of property. This I consider a most unsatisfactory method, and should recommend the Council to carry out the work themselves.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Vide Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Vide Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SCHOOLS: There are two in the village of Tintwistle. They are both in a thoroughly sanitary condition, and have a plentiful supply of water. The closure of the schools in case of an epidemic is in the hands of the County Medical Officer of Health, who is in charge of the Medical Inspection of the School Children.

HOUSING.

There are about 580 houses in your district. Ninety per cent. are occupied by the working classes. On the whole the general standard of the house is good, with the exception of the old houses built in the middle and towards the close of the 18th century, and beginning of the 19th. These, however, have been restored and brought more up to date. The houses are chiefly of the type two bed-rooms, a living-room, kitchen, with an enclosed back yard.

There is really no acute shortage of houses.

The population remains about the same, and in my opinion there is no reason to anticipate any increase or diminution.

There are no outstanding cases of overcrowding.

Dampness, no back doors, windows which will not open, short slopstone pipes, defective roofs, are the chief defects one meets.

As a rule not much difficulty is experienced in getting the landlord to do the necessary repairs.

There are no unhealthy areas.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (a) Total | None. |
| (b) As part of a municipal housing scheme | None. |

1. Unfit dwelling-houses.

- | | |
|---|--------|
| Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 80. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910... .. | 10. |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | None. |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | Seven. |

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	Thirteen.
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3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.

- | | |
|---|--------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Seven. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit;— | |
| (a) by owners | Seven. |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | None. |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close | None. |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | |
|---|--------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | Eight. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:— | |
| (a) by owners | Six. |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | None. |

C.—Proceedings under section 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders | None. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made... .. | None. |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit... .. | None. |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made... .. | None. |
| (5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | None. |

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

As I have stated before, four samples of milk have been taken and tested for Tubercle Bacilli: the results were negative.

No licences have been granted for the sale of milk under special designation.

MEAT: There is one registered slaughter-house in your district. This is kept clean, and in every way satisfactory. Your Inspector is notified when killing takes place, and the carcass is examined. Meat is sold at two shops. Number of registered slaughter-houses in 1920, 1; in January, 1925, 1; in December, 1921, 1.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT: This is administered by the County Council.

TUBERCULOSIS.

One case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified in 1925—patient was a female, aged 38 years.

Two cases of Tubercular Glands in females, age 16 and 33 years.

These have been reported to the County Tuberculosis Officer.

I should like to acknowledge the valuable assistance rendered me by your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Storey, in carrying out my duties during the year.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

GEO. J. AWBURN, B.Hy.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Inspector's Report.

10, Salisbury Street,
Hadfield,
January 31st, 1926.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Rural
District Council of Tintwistle.*

Gentlemen,—

I beg to submit to you my Fifteenth Annual Report for the year ended December 31st, 1925. The report, as previously, is confined to the inspections made, and to the notices served for the abatement of nuisances and defects, leaving to the Medical Officer of Health to point out what he considers necessary regarding improvements. I have supplied a copy of this report, and a list of inspections made, and notices served, to the Medical Officer of Health.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, ETC., ACTS.

The number of Inspections and reinspections made during the year was 32. None of the houses were considered as being unfit for human habitation. The defects found were chiefly of a minor character, such as broken cords on sash windows, broken Sink Waste pipes, etc. Preliminary notices were served to remedy the defects, most of which were complied with, and without the necessity of having to issue formal notices.

NEW HOUSES.

No new houses have been erected during the year.

Three wooden buildings used intermittently for human habitation have been erected in the Parishes of Hattersley and Matley, but as the same did not conform in all respects with the Bye-Laws in force the owners have been required to enter into agreements as to keeping the places in sanitary condition, and as to the building being only of a temporary nature, if the Council requires the removal of same.

DWELLING-HOUSES.

There are 577 houses in the district. There are no cellar dwellings, and only two back-to-back houses.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.

The Poor Children's Camp at Town Head, Tintwistle, has now been taken over by the City of Manchester Education Committee, and is used in the summer months as a holiday camp for Elementary School Children from Manchester. The sanitary arrangements have been overhauled and improved to meet the necessary requirements.

ASHPITS, CLOSETS, YARDS, ETC.

In the more urban parts of the district the Ashpit refuse is mostly removed on the owners' instructions, and at their expense; the refuse in the more rural parts is removed by the occupiers mostly, except in the Crowden and Woodhead parts, where it is removed by the Manchester Corporation. There has not been much difficulty in the owners getting the work done satisfactorily without the aid of the Council, and in only a few instances have I had to draw attention to Ashpits being overfull.

**SANITARY CONVENIENCES OF EACH TYPE
IN THE DISTRICT.**

Number of Privies with fixed receptacles	275.
Number of Privies with Moveable receptacles ...	75.
Number of Fresh Water Closets	95.
Number of Waste Water and Hand-flushed Closets	15.

CONVERSIONS.

	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Privies fixed to Moveable Receptacles..	1	0	3	0	0	0
Privies fixed to Fresh w.c.'s	0	3	0	0	0	0
Privies fixed to Waste w.c.'s... ..	0	0	0	0	2	0
Privies Moveable to Fresh w.c.'s	0	0	0	0	0	0
Privies Moveable to Waste w.c.'s ∴ ...	0	0	0	0	0	0

WATER SUPPLIES.

There has been a sufficient supply of water for human consumption in all parts of the district.

The attention of the L.M.S. Railway has been drawn to the tank which supplies their houses at Woodhead Tunnel, and which required covering over. This has now been done.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

The number of Cowkeepers, Dairymen, and Purveyors of Milk who are registered is 39. Dairies are attached to the Farm-houses, but as a rule very small quantities of Milk are kept in same, as it is generally delivered and sold on the day of Milking. Only a very small portion of the milk produced in the Parishes of Hattersley and Matley is purveyed in the district, the greater portion being sent to or purveyed in towns bordering the parishes. Four samples of Milk were collected in the village of Tintwistle, and examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, but none was found. Taking them on the whole the cowsheds are kept in a cleanly state.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

There is only one Slaughter-house in the district, which has been regularly inspected, and which has always been found clean. Certain small repairs and improvements have been carried out to the drains. There are only two Butchers' Shops in the district, and

the requirements of the Meat Regulations have been observed as far as possible, and I have had nothing to complain about with regard to soundness of the Meat, and the conditions under which it is sold.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are eight registered, all of which are well ventilated, and kept clean.

PIGGERIES.

These are mostly on farm premises, and well away from dwelling-houses. Very few pigs are kept by householders for their own consumption.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Only one in the district, i.e., Tripe Boiling. No complaints have been made; the premises are suitable, and kept clean.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

None in the district.

PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PRODUCED OR SOLD.

I have not come across any foods which in my opinion would be dangerous to health, and the places are kept in a cleanly state generally.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

There is only one mill chimney in the district. I have not observed any excessive smoke being emitted.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Four short lengths of Sewers have been repaired and re-laid. Tintwistle Sewage Disposal Works continue to work very satisfactorily. Two samples of the sewage effluent was taken, and classified as very good, being 9th on list out of 62, and 10th out of 73 samples respectively.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There have been very few cases. Five houses have been stoved and disinfected by Sulphime S.O₂.

TINTWISTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Tabular Statement of Sanitary Inspector of Nuisances for the Year ended December 31st, 1925.

Number and Nature of Inspections made.	No.	No. of Notices served.		Result of Service of Notices.		
		Statutory	Informal.	Notices complied with.	Remain- ing in hand.	Prosecutions Instituted | Pend'g.
1 Dwelling Houses (General Inspections)	68	...	15	15	...	...
2 Cellar Dwellings ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Back-to-Back Houses	2	...	...	...	...	...
4 Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c.	35	...	7	6	1	...
5 Courts, Yards, Passages	155	...	2	1	1	...
6 Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets, and Ashbins	520	...	9	6	3	...
7 Cesspools	15	...	...	...	...	...
8 House Drainage	110	...	11	9	...	...
9 Ditches, Watercourses, &c.	25	...	...	...	2	...
10 Offensive Accumulations	18	...	18	18	...	...
11 The Keeping of Animals (P.H.A., 1875, S. 91 (3))...	32	...	...	...	...	...
12 Offensive Trades	2	...	...	...	...	...
13 (a) Slaughterhouses (Public)	2	...	...	...	...	...
" (b) Other Places where Food is produced or sold	24	...	3	3	...	...
14 Piggeries	55	...	...	...	...	...
15 (a) Dairies	15	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Cowsheds	29	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Milkshops	85	...	8	8	...	...
16 (a) Factories and Workshops ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Workplaces	7	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Outworkers' Premises ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
17 Bakehouses (Overground)	11	...	...	...	...	...
" (Underground) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
18 Common Lodging Houses ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
19 Houses Let in Lodgings ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 Smoke Observations	2	...	...	...	...	...
21 Canal Boats ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
22 Infectious Disease (Inquiries and Re-visits)	10	...	...	...	...	...
23 Miscellaneous	35	...	5	4	1	...
Totals	1255	...	78	70	8	...

January 31, 1926.

CHARLES E. STOREY, Sanitary Inspector.

